

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 /028 W

----- 002843

R 081530Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2208

UNCLAS BUENOS AIRES 5355

DEPT PASS USDA/FAS LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS DIV.

FROM DESCALZO AGATT OFFICE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, AR

SUBJ: LIVESTOCK AND MEAT

REF: 13-C

1. SUMMARY:

	FINAL 1974 -----	REVISED 1975 -----	
CATTLE NO. (000 HEAD), JUNE 30	56,500	59,300	
CATTLE SLAUGHTER (MILLION HEAD)	10.0	11.5	
AVG. CARCASS WEIGHT (KILOS)	214	210	
BEEF PRODUCTION (000 TONS)	2,145	2,145	
EXPORTS (000 TONS)	289	230	
DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION (000 TONS)	1,829	2,175	
PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION (KILOS)	75.0	100 TO 110	
POPULATION (000)	24,644	25,014	

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2. ESTIMATED BEEF EXPORTS IN CY 1975 DOWN 20.4 PERCENT FROM 1974 AS A RESULT OF THE BAN IMPOSED BY THE EC ON MEAT IMPORTS AND ALSO TO UNFAVORABLE ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN TRADITIONAL EUROPEAN IMPORTING COUNTRIES.

3. CATTLE SLAUGHTER IN 1975 EXPECTED TO BE 15 PERCENT ABOVE 1974 REFLECTING A LARGER AVAILABILITY OF BEEF IN THE DOMESTIC MARKET. THE CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA INCREASED BY 25 TO 35 KILOS.

4. EXPORTS OUTLOOK FOR 1975 ARE ESTIMATED TO DROP ABOUT 20 PERCENT SINCE THE EC MARKET IS STILL CLOSED AND THERE ARE NO PROSPECTS FOR A NEAR FUTURE BAN LIFTING.

5. THE USSR HAS PURCHASED 20,000 M.TONS OF MANUFACTURING BEE AT A LOWER PRICE THAN THE SPECIAL CUTS, THUS BRINGING DOWN THE AVERAGE PRICE OF BEEF. CORNED BEEF EXPORTS INCREASED 30 PERCENT DURING THE FIRST 7 MONTHS OF 1975 THE SHARE FOR JUNE AND JULY 1975 BEING INCREASED 100 PERCENT FROM JUNE AND JULY 1974. THE PRESENT PRICE IS 1,723 DOLLARS PER METRIC TON COMPARED TO 1,900 DOLLARS IN JULY.

6. GOA MODIFIED EXCHANGE RATE FOR EXPORTS FROM 20 TO 25 PERCENT ACCORDING TO TYPES OF MEAT. GOA ALSO FREED DOMESTIC PRICES OF CATTLE HENCE, IT IS EXPECTED THAT SALES OF LIVESTOCK ON THE HOOF WILL INCREASE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DATA, LIVESTOCK, MEATS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BUENOS05355
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750275-0390
From: BUENOS AIRES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750867/aaaacgpn.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION AGR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ellisoob
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JAN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <02 FEB 2004 by ellisoob>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LIVESTOCK AND MEAT
TAGS: EAGR, AR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006